THE NEWS BULLETIN

OF THE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

OF CANADA

40 COLLEGE ST. TORONTO, CANADA

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DANIEL ANDREW BUDGE

D. A. Budge has passed from time into eternity. Mr. Budge was certainly, if ever man was, of the shining company of those who attain in this life to the crown of glory traditionally reserved for bestowal in the next. He was known, respected and loved by thousands of fellow-men he had helped to personal achievement and enrichment of life by his friendliness, faith, encouragement and counsel, by the unwavering singleness of purpose with which he "confronted men with the living Christ." Kindly, friendly, shrewd, far-seeing, confident, energetic, tenacious, capable, D. A. Budge was one of the giants of the generation that included Robert McBurney and Richard C. Morse among the leaders of the Young Men's Christian Association Movement on this continent.

The following tributes have been written by friends of many years:

Daniel Andrew Budge, the senior Y.M C.A. Secretary, of North America, both in years and in length of service, was the son of Alexander and Isabella Campbell Budge, both natives of Caithnesshire, Scotland, the father being a blacksmith. The son learned the trade of a printer, and secured work in Toronto, where he qualified as a stenographer, and in that capacity filled positons in Port Hope and Oshawa, finally coming to Montreal early in 1872 as a shorthand writer to Gilman Cheney, Superintendent of the Canadian Express, being then one of only five men in the city writing shorthand.

Ever since he was led to Christ in the Toronto Y.M.C.A. through the influence of the then Secretary, Thomas J. Wilkie, he had been a zealous worker in the Association, and in 1874 was induced reluctantly to accept the Secretaryship of the Montreal Association, with grave doubts as to his fitness However, under his wise and devoted leadership the work developed until in 1892, the original building on Victoria Square was abandoned for a finer and larger one on Dominion Square, with an up-to-date equipment, including a Physical Department. Mr. Budge continued as General Secretary, and in 1912, when, as a result of an active building campaign in 1909 the large new building on Drummond Street and the branches in Westmount and the North-end were opened and the Association reorganized on a Metropolitan basis, he became the Metropolitan General Secretary.

In 1913 he retired from the active Secretaryship after an unbroken term of 39 years service, and was appointed Consulting Secretary, giving wise counsel and practical help, not only to the Association, but to many other religious, philanthropic and patriotic causes. During the Great War he spent three years in London, England, in active Y.M.C.A. service for the Canadian troops, and on his return to Canada acted as a leader in many War Fund Campaigns and other causes for Public welfare. In 1924, after he had been for some years on the retired list, he was tendered a public banquet in recognition of his 50 years service for young men. While advancing years, naturally, limited his working powers, he never lost his love for and close touch with the Association work and was often sought for advice and help.

In addition to his work in Montreal, he had been a prominent figure in the Internatonal Work of the Y.M.C.A. among other services, having introduced the Railway Y.M.C.A. into Canada, starting with the Point St. Charles branch in Montreal, extending it to many centers on the lines of our two great railway systems. He also visited Australia and New Zealand in 1904 and 1906 to strengthen the work in those Dominions.

A man of ability fitting him for the highest positions in any path of life, he had early devoted himself to the service of young men, and has left the impress of his Christian personality on thousands of men all over this Continent and far beyond who honoured and loved him as a genuine Christian and a true friend.

W. S. Leslie.

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"IF THE Y.M.C.A. IS TO LIVE—"

Executive secretaries of Metropolitan Y.M.C.A.'s in Canada and the United States recently met for two days at Pittsburgh to hear reports and to study adjustments being made by Associations in the swiftly changing conditions of our day. Mr. J. W. Beaton, of Montreal, has set down for the News Bulletin, in very interesting fashion, some "impressions" he received during his participation in the conference.

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Adaptability

If the Y.M.C.A. is to live through this period when thoughtful observers freely prophesy that many religious and social organizations must of necessity pass out of existence, our movement must adapt itself to new conditions. Flexibility must succeed rigidity. All of our troubles are not due to the depression.

Buildings

The Y.M.C.A. must increasingly follow people to the suburbs and not concentrate on their work solely in downtown buildings. Community branches seem to be getting along well under present-day conditions. Association buildings must be increasingly regarded as social and religious centres and not only as clubhouses for young men and boys. These buildings have never before been the vital forces for good that they are today. There is an even greater use of them than ever, except in the dormitories. In some cities, Secretaries and their families have moved into the Association buildings. In one city one hundred and seventy-five nurses are in residence in a building which is in close proximity to a hospital which has no nurses' residence. The Association as a matter of policy must provide for building obsolescence — all buildings should be scrapped after approximately thirty-five years. The New York Association depreciates its buildings four per cent annually.

Women

There is a large increase in women's work in Association buildings. New York had forty per cent increase in the attendance at their Branches by women last year. Another city reports a Sunday afternoon family program free of charge.

Educational Work

Twenty cities where formal educational work is being carried on are of the opinion that it is one of their finest pieces of character education.

Moral Bankruptcy

One Association in its program assumes a religious and moral bankruptcy in the community and has a strong Bible study program at work. Religious retreats are a characteristic feature of their program. A week-end boat trip, participated in by sixty young men, with Prof. Bruce Curry as religious leader, was mentioned.

Budget Economies

Staff. In one city, eighteen men with their families are living in one building. Some Secretaries are receiving compensation based upon their weekly collections of memberships and subscriptions.

Supplies. Increasing care is being taken with purchases of all kinds of supplies. Devices are being used measuring consumption of steam, water, etc., by departments.

Membership. Many men dropping out of expensive country and other clubs are excellent prospects for the Associations' Business and Professional Men's Clubs, and under these conditions it is reasonable to offer members a reduction on their own membership fees in return for new members secured.

Subscriptions. One Branch Association, which was unable to organize a current expense campaign, was able to secure eight men who would guarantee a monthly income of $400.00 which was the amount required to balance their current operating budget. In some Associations, budgets are being adjusted monthly, deficiencies in one monthly budget being made a charge on the payroll for the next month. The expectations for income this year vary from the same as last year to ten per cent of last year.

Basic Philosophy

Mr. W. J. Parker, of Chicago, urged the need for changes in our basic philosophy on several points:

Constituency. There are more younger boys and more mature men; more girls and women. The Association may have an increasingly important service to render to older men who face the disillusionment, and in some cases embitterment, of age; men who realize they are not the "world beaters" their mothers thought they would become; men who have met reverses, and bereavements, and who need the recreation, fellowship and program of the Association.

Relationships. The Association is becoming more and more community-centred. One Association which has recently re-written its Constitution and By-Laws requires only eight per cent of its members to be members of Protestant Evangelical Churches. The old Y.M.C.A. attitude of exclusiveness is rapidly giving place to that of wide and generous cooperation with other agencies with resultant feeling by the Association that we have much to learn from other agencies and a good deal to contribute.

Closer relationships are evident between Associations and institutions of higher education, research groups in universities indicating increasingly a desire to study social processes at work in the Association, and Associations more and more using practical help from university resources.

Program Process. There is a changing attitude toward human needs, the feeling being that the process of changing lives is a slow one and that the formation of a character must basically come from within an individual. It cannot be superimposed from without.

Purpose. The Chicago Association consequently interprets its purpose to be:

"To provide in an atmosphere of freedom and under friendly guidance certain aids by means

Concluded on page 5, col. 2.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER ALLDRITT

"Bill" passed to his reward on Sunday, February 26, 1933, following an operation upon his eyes, from which he had suffered for some time. His untimely death came as a great shock to his many friends. In addition to Mrs. Alldritt, he left three children, the youngest of whom is under two years of age.

Mr. Alldritt was born in England 52 years ago and came to Canada with his parents when a boy.

He came into the Y.M.C.A. through the influence of H. R. Hadcock, then physical director of the Winnipeg Association. In 1906 he was invited to become physical director of the Winnipeg Association and since that time he served in the Revelstoke and Victoria Associations, returning to Winnipeg as senior physical director in 1920.

Bill Alldritt was a member of the South African constabulary from 1901 to 1904. During the great war he served with the 8th Canadian Infantry Battalion from 1914 until he was captured at the second battle of Ypres in the spring of 1915. He was a prisoner in Germany until the close of the war. After several attempts at escape he was sent to the salt mines where he suffered hardships that may have been a factor in shortening his life.

Mr. Alldritt was a man of large proportions, both physically and in the characteristics of his personality. He was an efficient physical director with an exceptional alertness in discovering, thinking through and analyzing situations involving problems with which he and the Association were faced.

He was closely associated with basketball for some years and was the President of the Canadian Basketball Association. In his relationship with the A.A.U. of C. he made a distinct contribution recently, particularly in the Committee on the alliance of the constituent bodies.

Physical Education and sport in general throughout Canada will be greatly impoverished in their leadership because of the passing of Bill Alldritt.

The deep sympathy of the Y.M.C.A. men of Canada is extended to his widow and children.

D. A. BUDGE

(Cont'd. from page 1.)

In the passing of D. A. Budge, Montreal has lost a really great citizen and the Young Men's Christian Association its great outstanding builder.

Coming onto the scene at a time of rapid change, he became a pioneer of a new phase of spiritual development and character building.

While his level head and Scotch common sense gave to him a fine emotional stability, his profound understanding of youth made him sympathetic to all new ideas and when convinced of their soundness he would fearlessly and patiently follow them to their logical conclusion. The results of that lifelong attitude are well evidenced by the great Association in Montreal.

But probably the greatest thing in the life of Mr. Budge was the intensity of his interest in the individual. It amounted to a passion with him and he was a pastmaster at getting into intimate and friendly touch with the other fellow. He loved men not in the mass but individually.

Like a stone dropped into a still pool his personal influence radiated in ever widening circles till, literally over this whole world, men whose lives he touched rise up today and call him blessed.

Pioneer, builder, world benefactor—to many of us the news of his death came, not in these terms but as of the passing of a personal friend, or perhaps as a much loved member of our own immediate families, for into the life of each he has come at some time or other, and perhaps many times as a wise and kindly spiritual father or brother, and it is in such terms as these that we would remember his life and character.

Gerald W. Birks.

The death of Mr. D. A. Budge followed a heart attack on Monday evening, February 13th. Born in Newmarket, Ontario, April 16, 1851, the year the first Association in North America was founded in Montreal, he became twenty-three years later its General Secretary, and its Consulting Secretary in 1913, after thirty-nine years of continuous service in the Canadian metropolis. For well over half a century he was one of the most dominant personalities in the religious life of his city and personally deeply influenced the Associations in Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand and, through the Foreign Work, other parts of the world.

His record of service on behalf of the movement is a remarkable one, but it is universally agreed that

his outstanding contribution was to the individual lives of the young manhood of Canada's leading city. Few men have made such a deep and lasting impression for good on the lives of their fellow men. As a leading member of the American Presbyterian Church, as well as in the wider councils of the church, he was influential. His masterly hand was to be seen in the organization of many financial campaigns for the Red Cross, Patriotic Funds, Hospitals, Federated Charities and other good causes. After his retirement he carried on a ministry of fellowship among hundreds of men whose lives he helped to mould in their formative period.

John W. Beaton.

Mr. Budge seemed to lack none of the qualities required for successful leadership in the Association, but there are three which stand out most prominently in my memory of him, to which I would like to pay tribute.

First; his consuming passion for the spiritual welfare of men. This concern was always uppermost in his thoughts and it mattered not what was the nature of personal problems of the individual with whom he was dealing—having to do with employment, or education, or habits, or family—he never seemed to fail in bringing things to a focus with reference to the man's philosophy of life (though that term was not used in his day) by his unfailing practice of pleading that a right relationship to God through the Person of Jesus was the most vitally important matter in any man's life.

This evangelistic mental attitude also found expression in the emphasis he placed in the Association upon group Bible Study and meetings for fellowship and presentation of the gospel message. The two weekly meetings which remain clearly inscribed on my memory are the Saturday night service and the Sunday afternoon Bible Class conducted by himself. Psychology as a science was not often mentioned then but Mr. Budge's understanding of human nature, its victories and failures coupled with his deep spiritual convictions and insight, enabled him to use, if unknowingly from a scientific standpoint, methods, principles, and materials which were pedagogically sound.

Second; his insistence with his Secretarial colleagues and his practical example to them, upon the necessity of personal contacts with individuals. His great reliance in securing new memberships or renewals, or students for night schools, library readers, attendance at Bible classes and religious meetings, subscriptions from the public, was placed not primarily on literature but on personal calls. Each week in staff meetings he always probed into the experience of the Secretaries with reference to the number and quality of their individual approaches to members of the Association and urged that we should not spend all our time in the office but wear out some shoe leather in visiting men in their places of employment. Mr. Budge, in this as in all other matters, practised what he preached and daily, either alone but usually with members of the Board, made many calls frequently on the most influential citizens of Montreal. In this matter, as in his religious endeavours, he used the scientific qualities of salesmanship and psychology.

Third; the richness and gracious quality of his heart and mind. It was almost like a benediction to meet him. The sympathetic tones of his voice, the infectious quality of his laugh, the obvious warmth and depth of his interest in everyone he met, coupled with the keen but kindly penetration of his mind directed toward the welfare of the individual, were outstanding qualities of his personality. It should be said also that while he was primarily interested in the person, he also had a profound conviction that the Young Men's Christian Association was capable of significantly serving the interests of men and he was always alert to enlist people in the organization both as beneficiaries of its work and as workers in its enterprises.

"His works live after him."

Harry Ballantyne.

Just a few weeks ago Mr. Budge wrote down for Dr. E. M. Best, General Secretary of The National Council:

Some Fundamentals Which the Association Should Embody in Its Programme

1. *The practice of prayer. This is a supernatural work and we must have supernatural power.*
2. *The story of the Bible—the foundation for character building and the unerring guide for life and conduct.*
   Robert R. McBurney—"If we say that the Assocations love the Bible and yet do not teach it we lie and do not the truth; if we withhold its teachings and fail to bring men under its influence we are of all men most criminal."
3. *Work for and expect the conversion of men. When the power to redeem wayward men dies out of an Association, it may be an Association for improvement or a machine for social reform, but its dynamic power is gone.*
4. *Carefully follow men who are interested until they place their membership in some Church. The Association should be a definite feeder to the Church.*
5. *This is a Laymen's Movement. Give Committee service a real place in your program. Place responsibility upon an increasing number of Laymen for the promotion of its activities.*
6. *Study your membership roll continually for the discovery and enlistment of young men for Christian Service and for leadership in civic and national life.*
7. *Every Secretary or Employed Officer should have a list of young men whom he is cultivating and seeking to influence towards the Christian life—to read over in his prayer, to call their attention to some helpful article in the press or magazine, and in other ways to make them feel that he is personally interested in their welfare. The game is to get into the life of the individual man and follow him through in life.*
8. *Realize that the work is more important than the man. Never allow the work to suffer for the sake of the man.*

9. Be assured that when the religious work and the Finances of an Association are in a healthy condition the other departments will fall into line. Always raise your budget before you spend it. Plan your work so as never to close your year with a deficit.

The Young Men's Christian Association gives attention to the individual young man. In its vision it sees what that man may become if its character building ideals can play upon his life for five or ten years and it plans accordingly. It aims to develop Personality. It has the long-range view-point. It lays foundations which fit men for useful citizenship so that they may better serve their day and generation.

Such is my conviction and experience during more than 40 years of leadership.

Heart-felt sympathy from their many friends goes out to Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Farrington, of Niagara Falls, in the recent death of their little son, Clifford.

If The Y.M.C.A. Is To Live
(Cont'd. from page 2.)

of which people may help themselves to meet the issues of life according to interests and capacities."

Program Content and Leadership. These dominant interests and desires are: making a living; getting along with other people; becoming citizens; securing health; obtaining diversion; appreciating the finer things of life; developing a philosophy of life. An institution that does these things is an institution for recreation and informal education, which is a better description than a character-building agency. The use of this name to characterize the Association would mean that the Association would have a curriculum instead of opportunistic programs and a faculty instead of group leaders.

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The editor has been interested to note that Mr. Parker's list of dominant human interests, as a basis for Association curriculum, corresponds almost exactly to the "six-point" curriculum developed by our Canadian National Program Service Committee, and outlined in the News Bulletin for June 1932. Reprints of this artcle, in mimeographed form, can be had of the National Council.

PRESSING FORWARD IN A DAY OF OPPORTUNITY

Our purpose as a Movement is the development of vitally Christian persons in a really Christian society. Difficult, trying, dangerous, as is the present situation, it is also one of unparalleled opportunity for the Y.M.C.A.

When were such far-reaching changes in progress as now? Life has burst its old bounds. In social, religious, economic, political, international affairs there is a surge of unchannelled energy. Now the Christian forces have their chance! How can we use it, intelligently, courageously, adequately?

It is to face this challenge that Regional Conferences of the Associations are being held this spring.

Since the National Executive Committee decided, following consultation with local leaders, that an Annual Meeting of the Council would not be held this year as usual, these Regional Conferences are doubly important.

It is expected that one will be held in the Maritime Provinces in May or June, one in Toronto, for Ontario and Quebec, April 14, 15, and two or more in the Western Provinces.

An energetic committee is now securing speakers and leaders and working out details for the program of the Toronto Conference around themes of strategic importance, such as

Sources of Spiritual Power,
New Forms of Re-Creation,
Guidance in Social Thinking and Planning,
National Cooperation for Local Service, and
International Fellowship in Extending Goodwill.

The Conference is planned to be a combination of inspirational addresses, group discussions, conference forum, worship, fellowship and recreation, for representatives of all sections of the membership, Directors, Committeemen, Leaders, Y's Men, Young Men, Older Boys, etc. It is hoped that each local delegation will be a cross-section of the whole membership.

DEAR OLD COUCHICHING

"Ain't what she used to be." The old song, slightly revised, tells truth, but in this case the difference immortalized is Couchiching's adaptation to new days, consequent growth in popularity, and a vitality which immensely broadens usefulness and influence.

The list of Y.M.C.A. events already scheduled for Couchiching this coming season is extensive. There is something for every Association friend, member, worker, and leader. Period events include:

The Community Camp for Young Men, Women and Families—July 1 to 15. Low cost.

Ontario Young Men's Council Camp—July 1 to 15. Program directed by young men.

Institute on Economics and Politics—July 31 to August 12. Famous leaders and speakers.

Conference on Religion—August 12 to 19. What can Christianity bring to-day to individuals?

School of Leisure and Recreation Leadership—August 21 to September 2. New forms of recreation.

Week-end events include:

Young Men's Council Conference—July 8-9.
Couchiching Friends' Reunion—July 22-23.
Y.M.C.A. Laymen's Conference, Citizenship—August 5-6.

Y.M.C.A. Laymen's Conference, Religion—August 19-20.

Y.M.C.A. Physical Department Conference, Laymen, Leaders, Physical Directors—August 19-20.
Y.M.C.A. Laymen's Conference—World Service—August 27-28.

Under the direction of Mr. E. D. Otter, the secretary in charge, repairs and improvements to the Park property are planned which will greatly enhance the attractiveness of "Charming Couchiching."

ASSOCIATION PERSONNEL

During 1932 financial difficulties in an increasing number of communities forced boards of directors, however unwillingly, to make adjustments affecting personnel which represent a loss of ground and must be viewed with concern by all far-seeing friends and leaders of the Movement. The encouraging fact should be noted, however, that these adjustments for the most part were made only when every other means had been tried of meeting a situation of unprecedented difficulty, and that they are widely regarded as emergency measures which will be revoked as soon as circumstances permit.

Reductions in Staff

The roster of Canadian secretaries at December 31, 1932, stood at 193 as compared with 259 in 1929 and 225 a year ago. Stated in percentages there has been a decrease of 25% for the three-year period of which more than half occurred during 1932. According to position these reductions since 1929 are as follows: General and executive secretaries 7%, physical directors and assistants 22%, boys' work secretaries and assistants 29%, National Council 33%.

Reduction in Salaries

Associations affected. Out of the total number of 74 Associations, 62 or 84%, have found it necessary to reduce salaries since 1929. Of these, 45 did so in 1931 and 24 (17 of which were additional) in 1932.

Secretaries affected. Out of the present roster of 193 secretaries, 161, or 83%, have received salary reductions since 1929. These reductions range from 3½% to 41% and average slightly less than 10% of the 1929 level.

Method of making reductions. Of the Associations making reductions 65% did so in the form of salary contributions, thus maintaining the original salary level; 21% employed the graded reduction plan, thus protecting as far as possible the men on smaller salaries. It is regretted that this latter method was not more generally adopted.

Consultation with Staff. Accurate information is not available on this point, but reports indicate that many Associations followed the practice so necessary for maintaining morale of consulting in advance with the staff and employees regarding decisions affecting reductions.

New Men

In 1929 the Canadian Associations recruited 44 new men, which is about the average in normal years. In 1931 this number fell to 12, and in 1932 to the unprecedented low of 5. One serious aspect of this situation has been the impossibility of placing qualified men who have completed college courses in preparation for the secretaryship.

Educational Level

One effect of the staff reductions during the past three years has been an improvement in the educational level of the secretaryship. As the situation now stands 24% of the total group are college graduates, as contrasted with 12% in 1929. It should be added, however, that 25% of the drop-outs in 1932 were men with college degrees, twice as many as in 1931.

As an evidence of the interest which younger secretaries are taking in education, it may be pointed out that 6 men resigned in 1932 to enter college, and that at the present time there is a total of 30 students enrolled preparing for Y.M.C.A. work.

Salary Level

In spite of salary reductions, the average for all secretaries stands at practically the same figure as a year ago—$2181 for 1932 as compared with $2160 for 1931. This is because a larger percentage of the men dropped were juniors on lower salaries.

Lay Leadership

Probably in part related to the decrease in staff and the consequent need for a larger measure of volunteer help is the increase in the number of directors and committeemen serving the Association. The number during the past year reached an average of 60 per Association as compared with 54 in 1930 and a high average of 74 in 1924.

There is also evidence of a deliberate policy on the part of local Y.M.C.A.'s to raise the standard of their lay leadership. The strength of the Association depends upon the effort of the entire group of interested workers, both lay and secretarial, and it is increasingly recognized that the same necessity for careful selection applies to both.

Summer Schools

A marked change in the program of Couchiching took place during 1932. In place of the regular summer school, which could not be maintained with the reduced attendance, two institutes, open to laymen as well as secretaries, were conducted—one devoted to Recreational Leadership and the other to the consideration of Economic Problems and International Affairs. The attendance at the former was 43 and at the latter 120, making the largest total attendance we have had since the war.

SUMMER TOURS

Summer tours for young men and boys under Association direction are increasing in popularity. Seven times as many boys made trips to Europe in World Y Tours last year, as in 1924 or in 1931.

The all-inclusive cost ranges from $275.00 to $375.00 (American) from New York. European tours are under the direction of J. C. Clark, 347 Madison Avenue, New York. Each tour group is personally conducted by an experienced Y.M.C.A. secretary.

Educational trips to the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago are being planned under the supervision of Roy Sorenson, Room 1014, 19 South La Salle Street, Chicago. Comfortable entertainment will be arranged for both young men's and boys' groups and expert leadership in making most of the adventure.

NEWS NUGGETS

A group membership plan for employees of a gas and oil concern about which company, members and Associations are all enthusiastic is in operation at Toronto Central. Myles Dewar can give particulars.

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The January number of "Ceylon Men", published by the Association at Colombo is worth sending for. An article on the relation of interest to vocation, one on the value of literature, the story of the International Camp in India at which Tracy Strong and Wallie Forgie were leaders—an article from "The Canadian Mentor" on private devotions—are some of the contents.

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The Boys' Division at Westmount report a unique hobby group—the Meccano Club. Send to W. A. Buckley for a very interesting report of their exhibition.

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Kingston Whig-Standard in a recent issue gave space in an account of a meeting of the Public Welfare Board to the proposed program of the "Y" for unemployed. The Association offered the use of gymnasium and showers and the direction of its physical director. A program of entertainments and addresses was also outlined to be given in a community hall.

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A good description of the Associations in 1933 "Undertaking Bigger Tasks with More Faith and Less Money."

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A Program Service Bulletin, inspired by an urgent request from Geneva for help in an extremely difficult international situation, will be issued soon. It will suggest considerations of the attitude Canadian Christian organizations might take to the Sino-Japanese problem. It is being prepared by Professor Norman MacKenzie.

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Opening its seventh year the Wentworth County Association School of Recreation Leadership for Men and Women began a series of five Saturday afternoon sessions with an attendance of about a hundred and fifty church, school, playground, welfare and Association volunteer and professional workers from all over the surrounding country. The program included the learning of folk songs, a service of worship, discussion of books and literature on recreation, and the learning of social games, and folk dances. R. C. Sidenius is the originating, planning, promoting and directing genius.

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"Y.M.C.A. News" is the weekly newspaper of the Montreal Associations. It looks like a newspaper, and presents interesting live news about the Associations. A recent number described an occasion which many Associations might well adapt and adopt. Leaders from every active group in the Central Association—over 100 persons from 23 groups—were brought together for a meeting chaired by the president of the Association in which the financial problems and plans of the Associations were frankly shared with the members. The chairman of the finance committee presented an analysis of the budget which was followed by an enthusiastic discussion. A spirit of confidence and cooperation was evoked which promises great things.

* * *

"The danger in the present crisis with widespread unemployment and increased poverty is that law enforcement may break down, public opinion may be ignored and religion may be neglected. When poverty crowds on the heels of adversity the victims oftentimes lose their moral grip, abandon their ideals, cease to strive and ultimately become the pawns of circumstances. It is imperative, therefore, that the social and religious forces of the community should wage relentless war against the agencies of disintegration."

The foregoing is one paragraph from an article by Colonel Walter James Brown in the Municipal Review of Canada, Lachute, Que. It is a good paragraph to release to the daily press with Association news. Colonel Brown, at Western University, London, could probably furnish reprints of the whole article on request.

FAITH

Over the mountains is it Spring?

Have flowers started, blossoming
In sunny nooks on gentle slopes?
Do children run and skip with ropes
And shout and laugh and think it fun
To sail their craft where waters run
Down street and path in tiny stream
To greater flood; each morning seem
To launch a shining year of song?
Does mildness fill the air? Along
That quiet drive between the wild
Dim wood and sea has hope beguiled
Some sunward buds to burst a leaf
Or two, to bring a new belief
That Winter's done? A traveller told
Of leaving Eastern snow and cold
To find beyond the Rockies' rim
A different world delighting him.

Sunny this morning, makes me sing:
Over the mountains it is Spring.

Bill Cook.

At the urgent request of boys and teachers a species of Hi-Y work has been undertaken in twelve Junior High Schools in Vancouver. Endorsed by parents and teachers, it is reported to be one of the most valuable pieces of Christian work being done by this Association.

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The National Council of the Y.W.C.A. announces a "Refresher Course" for physical directors to be held in Winnipeg for a week in May. At least one is expected to attend from as far away as the Maritime Provinces. The more difficult the times, the more necessary it is for leaders of all good work to keep awake and growing. Our own Summer Schools at Lake Couchiching should, therefore, be well attended. They are:

Canadian Institute on Economics and Politics
July 31—August 12.

Conference on Religion—August 12-19.

School of Leisure and Recreation Leadership
August 21—September 2.

A Western Institute on Economics and Politics will be held at the Y.M.C.A. Camp, Lake of the Woods, July 1-10.

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The reorganized, refinanced, rehoused, restaffed and revitalized Lethbridge Association is going ahead vigorously and acceptably. Membership well over 800. Program includes work with newsboys, unemployed young men, Sunday School basketball league, in addition to physical, educational, social and religious activities for members, both boys and men.

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International Camps for boys and young men have been among the most significant enterprises of the World's Alliance. A letter just received announces a camp for North Africa and invites Canada to be represented. Campers sail from Marseilles, France, April 15th. The camp will be held from April 18th to 23rd in the mountains of Kabylie, not far from the town of Bougie, near Azazga, in the woods situated on the road going from this town to Algiers, in one of the most varied and picturesque parts of the coast region.

* * *

These International Camps are great business. One held during the Christmas season, for boys of the Indo-Australian area, in Mysore State, India, brought together 53 persons from 12 areas speaking 9 languages, including Canadian (Wallie Forgie was one of the leaders). The report indicates the development of Christian awareness, wholesome fellowship stimulating study and discussion of real problems, and strengthening of loyalty to the fundamental purposes of the Association among youths who without doubt will be leaders in national economic and religious life tomorrow.

* * *

Many Associations have granted club memberships to special interest groups in the past—and still are. Now one Association, adapting its service to the times, is reversing the process and securing golf club privileges at special rates for members wanting to play golf but desiring less expensive arrangements than are provided through individual club membership. This is a promising development which may be extended to other activities as well, such, for instance, as sculling. Oscar Pearson at Toronto Central is the father of this plan.

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"Democratic Influence in Industry" is a one-hundred page report of the proceedings of the first annual conference of Industrial Experimenters Associated. Done into book form in a cooperative print shop and published by Henry C. Metcalf, Bureau of Personnel Administration, 420 Lexington Ave., New York City. It contains very interesting and valuable accounts of actual experiences in democratic and cooperative conduct of industrial enterprises.

* * *

"St. Catharines Community Fair; the show window of St. Catharines; Fifty merchants and manufacturers display goods in fine project; was organized by Y's Men's Club; over half-hundred booths arranged in Y.W.-Y.M.C.A."—thus the local newspaper with page-wide headings reported a project about which E. R. Thurlow writes enthusiastically: "Results: attendance of over 9,000 citizens, made some money and a host of friends, sold some memberships, delighted exhibitors, and will likely close our year even."

* * *

"What can we do about Poverty and Wealth" is the title of a thirty-two page discussion outline published at 15c each by the Methodist Book Concern, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York. Each of the five sections includes instructions for leaders, suggestions for group projects, background information, questions for discussion, and an outline for a closing worship service. The pamphlet is "a program unit for young people on the Christian Quest."

* * *

Here is an item from a Toronto paper which might be adapted for release to local papers in Association centres. "Address at Annual Meeting of Federation for Community Services".

MUSTN'T SLASH AID

"It is my personal opinion, and I believe it is the judgment of the great majority of social workers, both lay and professional," declared A. D. Hardie, secretary of the federation, who left a sick bed to attend the meeting, "that the activities of the agencies which are primarily concerned with the mental, social and spiritual needs of boys and girls, of young men and women, should not be sacrificed nor seriously curtailed under present conditions. The first claim on any community is to feed the hungry.

"But man does not live by bread alone. He has mental, social and spiritual needs which to-day are also in danger of starvation. Any community which does not see beyond the bread basket in providing for its destitute and its unemployed will be facing problems of dependency, delinquency and crime in the near future, which will be most difficult and expensive to handle. The federation must as never before champion a program which includes all social problems in community life; which builds for tomorrow as well as for to-day."

An Irish-Canadian Roman Catholic, a Jew, and a Protestant, were the speakers at the Second Annual Symposium on "The Jew and The Gentile" held in Temple Emanu-el, Montreal, in February. The conference was sponsored by the young people of Temple Emanu-el and the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. Discussion group. Wilf Spearman, of The Central Association, Montreal, has issued a full report of the addresses and discussions. This is a unique and splendid enterprise in the development of understanding and goodwill between what too often in the past have been conflict groups.

* * *

Our alert friend R. C. Sidenius, Secretary of the Wentworth County Association, has scored again. As we go to press a copy is received of a one hundred page manual on recreation which is the result of the work of his annual school for leaders of recreation. It is an attractive volume, full of practical ideas, and well worth the $1. for which he will mail you a copy.

NATIONAL COOPERATION FOR LOCAL SERVICE

The services of the Council have included assistance to local Associations in financial campaigns, counsel on administrative problems, production of membership advertising material, assembly of Year Book data, and preparation of studies of Association development in Canada.

Financial Campaign Service.

Secretaries of the National Council helped organize and conduct campaigns in sixteen cities during 1932 (as starred in the following list)—

Local Association Campaigns 1932 and 1933 to Date

(If any Associations are omitted in this list it is because their reports have not been received.)

Place	Date	Objective	No. Subscribers	1932 Result	1931 Result
Belleville	November	$ 6,000	310	$ 3,453	$ 4,153
*Brandon	October	7,000	486	3,200	none
Calgary	September	26,500	1150	22,500	12,250
Cranbrook	November	500	75	453	250
Charlottetown	May	4,000	400	3,600	3,000
*Galt	May	6,000	342	6,033	4,216
*Edmonton	October	7,000	461	5,782	3,550
*Ft. William	November	5,000	600	5,300	5,800
*Guelph	October	5,800	440	4,225	4,051
Hamilton	April	20,000	734	18,000	20,000
*Kingston	April	6,800	650	6,050	6,648
*Kitchener-Waterloo	May	18,600	673	14,975	17,940
*Lethbridge		.....	.....	5,070	7,000
*London	November	27,000	1267	22,000	24,500
Moncton	March	5,000	1000	4,800	8,000
Montreal	April	91,000	2800	73,000	88,000
Midland	October	2,500	125	2,300	3,250
*Moose Jaw	September	6,000	391	5,127	5,700
Niagara Falls	April	3,500	.....	3,167	3,456
Orillia	May	4,500	202	3,026	3,750
*Ottawa	April	16,000	1152	12,500	12,725
*New Westminster	April	8,000	405	5,304	none
*Peterborough	May	7,500	368	3,655	none
Stratford	April	4,200	217	3,042	4,027
*St. Catharines	May	16,000	.....	11,800	none
*St. Thomas	May	2,000	191	1,537	none
Quebec		.....	91	2,482	2,918
Regina	November	10,000	750	7,000	10,300
Saint John	March	10,000	731	8,500	9,300
Toronto	January	125,000	3507	99,100	121,000
*Victoria	March	6,000	145	4,610	none
*Windsor	February	22,000	1060	24,000	19,320
TOTALS		$479,400	20723	$394,891	$406,904
		1933 Campaigns			
Toronto	January	100,000	3370	83,400	99,100
*Halifax	February	15,000	863	12,250	12,100

We congratulate the lay and employed leadership not only of the above Associations but of others who conducted campaigns during the year for the courage, energy and resourcefulness with which they carried out this enterprise and the confidence exhibited by the citizens of their various communities as evidenced by the good response.

Campaigns are known to be scheduled in the next three months at:

Charlottetown	Montreal	Kingston	Kitchener
Moncton	Sherbrooke	Peterborough	Windsor
Saint John	Ottawa	St. Catharines	Victoria.

Membership promotion material

By a cooperative arrangement with the United States National Council, our office was able to have illustrated material printed in Canada suitable for membership promotion. One hundred thousand copies of six different types of folders were sold to local Associations. This service seemed to be appreciated and is capable of considerable enlargement.

Year Book

The two Councils of United States and Canada produce annually a "Year Book" which is the statistical index of Association progress and is full of useful and valuable information indispensable to progressive Association leaders. The collection of Canadian material constitutes an important responsibility and involves considerable circularizing and exchange of correspondence with local secretaries.

National Council Finances

In the middle of the year the 1932 budget was revised and reduced by about $2,000. This was effected by a second reduction of salaries, economies in travel and other operating items. Consequently it was found possible to secure just sufficient income to meet our reduced outlay without increasing our deficit of approximately $6,000.

The local Associations with some exceptions continued their subscription support but the amount received therefrom was $5,763. less than in 1931, a reduction of 13½%. Subscriptions from centres where there is no Y.M.C.A. organization was 10% less than in 1931, for railroad work 8% less, while endowment interest, sales, etc. were slightly larger.

The expenditure budget for 1933 is $41,150. Last year it was $44,575.

16th ANNUAL BOY'S WORK SECRETARIES' CONFERENCE

During March the Boys' Work Secretaries of Ontario and Quebec met in Toronto for what was unanimously voted one of the most successful annual conferences in their history. Thirty men from 19 Associations attended, includng several general secretaries from centres where there is no specially designated boys' worker.

Three topics formed the basis of the discussions:

(1) The Professional Outlook of the Boys' Work Secretary, in which attention was given to the future of boys' work and methods of improving standards of workmanship.

(2) The Task of the Boys' Work Secretary in relation to Social Education and Reconstruction. The topic was introduced by Prof. A. E. Havelock and Dr. John Line of the University of Toronto, the former giving a clear-cut analysis of the present situation, and the latter dealing with the challenge to religious organizations and religious leaders.

(3) The Program of Boys' Work and the adjustment necessary in light of the recent report of the Blue Ridge Assembly of Boys' Workers, and the six point emphasis suggested by the Program Committee of the Canadian National Council on the areas of health, recreation, work, citizenship, family relations, and religion.

It could hardly be hoped to deal fully with all of these questions in the brief period of the Conference. The discussion, which impressed one by reason of the insight and general competence which it revealed, resulted in a number of agreements relating to both program and personnel, which are likely to mark definite milestones in the development of boys' work.

One of the most delightful features of the conference was the Fellowship Dinner held on Monday night, to which were invited a number of guests, including several boys' work committeemen and former boys' work secretaries located in Toronto. Interesting reports were given from various Associations regarding the most significant piece of boys' work carried on during the year. The address of the evening was given by Mr. Chas. Bauckham, Managing Director, Sterling Trusts Corporation, and Treasurer of the National Council Y.M.C.A.'s, on "A Layman's View of the Y.M.C.A."

We rejoice with the Jack Duckworths of Notre Dame de Grace Branch, Montreal, in the arrival of a lusty son.

THE STATUS OF CANADIAN ASSOCIATIONS DURING THE DEPRESSION

1. Organizations

During the past five years all local Associations except six have maintained their organizations. In 1929 the industrial Association at Marysville, N.B., carried on in the Canadian Cotton Co's club building was closed out. Association work at Truro, N.S. and North Sydney, N.S. was also discontinued because of financial difficulties. At the former point the Board of Directors is still in existence and own a building, but at the latter all property was sold and debts liquidated. In 1930 the Association building at Owen Sound, Ontario, was closed because of financial difficulties. The Board of Trustees continue to control a building property but have meanwhile rented it for other purposes. The Oshawa, Ontario, Association also ceased operations during this year due to financial difficulties and the building was ultimately sold to the city, proceeds being applied on indebtedness. In 1931 the Association at Sydney, N.S. released their Secretary claiming that Community work which had been carried on since the destruction of their building by fire, was not suitable and could not be financed. The Board of Directors and a Y's Men's Club continue to function. During this year the Association building at Lethbridge, Alberta, was reorganized as a Y.M.C.A. after about five years' operation as a Young People's Christian Association under Service Club direction. In 1932 the Railroad Association at East Toronto was closed owing to the removal of railroad business to another location.

During 1932, twenty-six Associations in the United States were closed.

2. Membership

The latest totals from each Association on membership are dated April 30, 1932. Unofficial information since that time indicates that there have been substantial losses this fall and that practically all Associations are continuing many men in membership who are unemployed and unable to pay fees. The record for the past five years to April 30th of each year is as follows:

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Men 25 yrs and over	19,091	20,842	17,862	16,804	14,649
Young men 18-24 yrs.	11,236	10,720	13,293	12,381	11,011
Boys 12-17 yrs.	18,965	18,830	16,541	14,576	13,988
Boys under 12 yrs.			5,147	5,126	5,402
Unclassified					887
Totals	49,292	50,392	52,843	48,887	45,937

It should be remembered that Associations are serving increasing numbers especially of boys who are resident at distances from the buildings, without any membership fees and not enrolled as members of the organization.

In the United States membership declined 10% in the past year compared with 6.4% in Canada and 4.5% compared with 9% in Canada since 1929.

3. Leadership

The number of Employed Officers and Committeemen for the past five year period is as follows:

	Employed Officers	Committeemen
1928	253	4,439
1929	276	4,505
1930	263	3,958
1931	247	3,872
1932	216	4,497

The sharp decline in 1932 of Employed Officers is of course the result of the difficult financial problem and it is likely to drop to lower levels when the 1933 report (April 30th) is issued. The nearly 20% rise in committee personnel in 1932 compared with the previous year may help to offset the loss of employed officers.

A significant figure for 1932 not recorded in the reports for other years shows over 1900 boys and young men giving definite periods of time as volunteer leaders of gymnasium classes, programme groups and office service.

In the United States secretarial personnel decreased 20% since 1929, 10% of it in the last year, and lay personnel increased in 1932 to the 1929 level.

4. Property and Finance

Interpreting the following tables it would appear as if gross property valuations have shrunk about one half of one per cent in 1932 but in the four previous years there was a very substantial rise.

Endowment funds have remained about stationary in the past two year period, but there is an unexplainably large decrease between 1930 and 1931 and over a 10% one compared with 1929.

Property debt has increased during the past year over 25%, probably explained by one large property addition, but for the previous three years remained almost stationary with a 10% decrease as between 1928 and 1929.

Operating income has declined about 10% compared with 1928 and has been slightly reduced in each intervening year while expenditures show a decrease of 5% over 1931 and nearly 10% compared with 1928. The annual operating current debts have been steadily rising showing 150% increase between the years 1929 and 1932. The total current indebtedness data is available only for the years 1931 and 1932.

Data is not available for the 1932 period since May 1st, but unofficial information would point to very substantial changes in both income and expenditures to the end of the year.

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
	52 Ass'ns	55 Ass'ns	53 Ass'ns	53 Ass'ns	47 Ass'ns
Value of Property, Buildings..	4,804,000	6,329,400	6,403,000	7,509,000	7,113,500
	17 Ass'ns	20 Ass'ns	21 Ass'ns	23 Ass'ns	22 Ass'ns
Endowment funds	371,900	555,500	708,600	494,000	492,500
	31 Ass'ns	31 Ass'ns	27 Ass'ns	27 Ass'ns	26 Ass'ns
Property debt	848,800	766,800	731,400	731,000	936,900
	74 Ass'ns	73 Ass'ns	71 Ass'ns	71 Ass'ns	70 Ass'ns
Total Operating Income	2,186,000	2,072,900	2,061,800	2,182,000	1,968,000
	74 Ass'ns	73 Ass'ns	71 Ass'ns	71 Ass'ns	69 Ass'ns
Total Operating Expenditures..	2,207,200	2,117,700	2,142,000	2,191,000	2,073,700
Annual current operating debts	21,200	44,800	81,200	80,000	115,400
				56 Ass'ns	
Total current debts				347,000	376,500

In the United States gross property declined 10% from 1931, endowments increased 27%, property debt decreased slightly, operating income declined 20% from 1931 and income 15.3%.

Accuracy of statistics

The figures sometimes reveal rather striking yearly differences in some of the items and occasionally an Association either does not supply any figures at all or incomplete ones. This fact therefore reflects somewhat upon the validity of the comparisons but as the only data available is from the Year Book which is compiled from the local report submitted, we have no other source of checking or cross checking.

Carefulness, thoroughness and business-like procedure in recording and reporting is not only essential but represents the only available data to study trends, advances and retreats.

BALILLA CLUBS FOR BOYS

An excerpt from an article on European affairs by Dr. L. L. Doggett in The College at Springfield Bulletin.

Before sailing on the "Roma" I spent four days in Rome and two at Naples. At Rome I met Guido Graziani, '22, Director of Physical Education in the Rome Association, and Timothy Fasulo, a graduate student '32, who is serving temporarily as Physical Director in the American School at Rome. It is Mr. Fasulo's plan to enter the service of the Balilla as director of physical education and recreation among boys.

The Balilla clubs for both boys and girls bid fair to be the most remarkable organization of its kind in the world, particularly the work for boys. A few years ago Signor Mussolini closed the Catholic church clubs enrolling about 500,000 young people and the boy scouts enrolling about 20,000 and issued orders requiring that all boys on reaching a certain age become members of the Balilla clubs. The Young Men's Christian Associations of Italy were exempted from this order. The Balilla clubs now enroll about 2,000,000 boys. They aim to look after the recreation and leisure time of boys following school hours and also to carry on summer camps. When a boy reaches the age of fourteen he automatically becomes a member of the Facisti club and later graduates, if worthy, into the Facisti party.

With our two Springfield alumni I visited the school for physical education now being located on the banks of the Tiber for the training of leaders for the Balilla clubs. Later there will be transferred to the same campus one of the schools for training military officers. We found one of the most magnificent plants for training leaders in physical education and recreation ever conceived—five hundred acres on the banks of the Tiber in a plain forming a basin surrounded by hills of moderate size, making a natural amphitheater and a wonderful place for training physical directors.

Already the main school building has been equipped and will be ready for occupancy the last of October. One stadium with three thousand seats, on the Greek model, is nearing completion. The central arena will furnish ample opportunity for sport. There are no covered seats. The stadium is built of stone and on the upper rampart, at intervals of twenty feet, are heroic figures, each one presented by a different city of Italy.

Signor Mussolini is rebuilding Italy on the old magnificent Roman plan and promoting sport and physical education as a national policy on a larger scale than any other ruler. The only comparable school in equipment for physical education is Deutsche Hochschule für Leibesübungen in Berlin under the direction of Dr. C. Diem. We have an arrangement for exchange students with Dr. Diem by which three men have gone from Springfield to Berlin and two from Berlin to Springfield.